

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for detecting moisture in a display device having at least one display element, the method comprising:

incorporating at least one moisture detector in a predetermined location of the display device;

encapsulating one or more display elements between a first and second shields; and

detecting the moisture by detecting one or more moisture-affected material characteristics of the moisture detector.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the detecting further includes detecting the moisture by monitoring a resistance of the moisture detector.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the detecting further includes detecting the moisture by monitoring a light transmissivity of the moisture detector.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the incorporating further includes placing the moisture detector in the predetermined location so that it does not affect an operation of the display elements.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the moisture detector is a strip of a thin metal.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the moisture detector further includes two electrodes for measuring the resistance of the thin metal.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the moisture detector contains a metal element belong to IA or IIA group earth metals.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the incorporating further includes placing the moisture detector in a display element region.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein the metal element has a thickness of 200 angstroms or more.
10. An organic luminescence display device comprising:
 - one or more display elements;
 - at least one moisture detector placed in a predetermined location close to the display elements; and
 - a first and second shields for encapsulating the display elements and the moisture detector therebetween,wherein undesired moisture is detected by the moisture detector base on one or more moisture-affected material characteristics thereof.

11. The display device of claim 10 wherein the moisture detector is placed in the predetermined location of the device so that it does not affect an operation of the display elements.
12. The display device of claim 10 wherein the moisture is detected by monitoring a light transmissivity of the moisture detector.
13. The display device of claim 10 wherein the moisture detector is a strip of a thin metal.
14. The display device of claim 10 wherein the moisture is detected by monitoring a resistance of the moisture detector.
15. A moisture detector for a luminescence display device encapsulated between two shields with one or more display elements, the moisture detector comprising:
 - a layer of metal placed in a predetermined location close to the display elements that does not affect an operation thereof,
 - wherein undesired moisture is detected by the moisture detector base on one or more moisture-affected material characteristics thereof.

16. The moisture detector of claim 15 wherein the moisture is detected by monitoring a light transmissivity of the moisture detector.
17. The moisture detector of claim 15 wherein the moisture is detected by monitoring a resistance of the moisture detector.
18. The moisture detector of claim 15 wherein the moisture detector contains a metal element belong to IA or IIA group earth metals.
19. The moisture detector of claim 15 wherein the moisture detector is placed in a display element region.
20. The moisture detector of claim 19 wherein the metal element has a thickness of 200 angstroms or more.